

Miscellaneous Editorial Paragraphs

A good heart is the beginning of a true life.

Hearts of peace will fill our world with peace.

There can be no clean, pure heart that has not been cleansed of its sin by the precious blood of Jesus.

There are times when quiet waiting for the Lord's direction and guidance is the highest duty of the Christian.

The joy of Christ in the human heart is a lamp that will shine thru the densest gloom and the longest and darkest night.

A very important lesson for each one of us to learn is, that not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Ghost are the important things in life.

Every creature in this world builds its own house to live in and builds it just like itself. If Christ is in the heart and rules our thoughts and passions the house we build will be a Christly house and the home will be a Christly home.

When we speak of joy, says Dr. Bushnell, we do not speak of something we are after, but of something that will come to us, when we are after God and duty. It is a prize unsought, and is freest, purest in its flow, when it comes unsought.

In more than one home the Bible is practically a lost book, lost amid the rubbish of business, or care, or pleasure or sin. It is carefully laid away for safe keeping on some shelf or table and never read. The Bible that is not read and not used as a guide might as well be buried in a lumber room.

There is no truer saying than this: "If we can only get the children right, we'll soon have the world in good order." Every teacher in our Sunday schools should keep this fact in mind both as a stimulus and cheer. Never lose sight of the fact that the work in which you are engaged is as important as it is attractive. If the hearts and lives of the children are kept pure and sweet the world will soon be won for Christ.

Maron Munchausen says that it was so cold, one day in Russia when he began to play a tune on his trumpet, that half of it froze in the instrument before it could get out; and a few months afterwards he was startled, in Italy, to hear of a sudden the rest of the tune come pealing forth. What a blessing would come to this world if those who have had benevolent purposes in the past might get thawed out and let us have the rest of the tune!

We are pleased to record another "backset" for the cigarette. At Findlay, Ohio, the 80 workmen in the 10-inch department of the Ohio Rolling mill have voted that none of them shall smoke cigarettes, the culprits to be soundly thrashed if found returning to the old habit. So far the result has been that for a week not a man has overstepped the law. The management of the mill, it is said, is to raise the wages of the men, voluntarily, on account of their action. With the increased wages and the saving of the money formerly spent for cigarettes, the men will be doubly benefited. But the greater benefit will be in the saving, not of money, but of the men's health. We are glad to note this increased pressure brought against the use of that destroyer of men's health and morality, the cigarette.

By this time how many new year resolutions have been broken? How many have *you* broken? The one resolution which every Christian should make and one which he can safely make is that he means to become more and more like Christ in spirit and temper and disposition and action. That we mean to grow truer, more patient, more unselfish, more thoughtful, more self-denying, more gentle, more earnest in all good works, more helpful to our fellow men. Let this be your resolve, not on each year's morning only, but each day and each moment of your life. God will bless and enrich the heart that makes such resolves.

Does it ever occur to you how much pleasure a kind, gentle word may carry with it as it goes on its mission? And what is easier than to speak the kind word? Thousands of people are sitting in idleness wishing for talent to do some great thing. Yet just as many thousands are anxiously waiting for some one to speak the kind, gentle, cheering word that will help them on in the great struggle of human existence. Would it not be better to scatter some of the beautiful, sweet flowers along the dusty path and not keep them all for the coffin? There are multitudes who prefer to take their flowers day by day rather than to have them all piled on the lid of the box whose remains are utterly incapacitated for the appreciation of the beautiful. The sweetest, the most fragrant flower that ever bloomed on God's green earth is the flower that springs from the soil of a clean and gentle heart.

Once the throne of Russia was occupied by two boy princes who heard the people's cause and gave their decisions. All were astonished at the great wisdom they showed in their answers, and wondered how princes so young could always decide so wisely and rule so well. The secret was, that when they sat on their thrones to hear the people, the aunt of the boys, the Princess Sophia, sat close behind them concealed by a curtain, telling them in whispers what to say in each case. Young people should always seek the advice of good counselors, men and women of experience, friends older than themselves, wiser, and who are able to lift them up to better things. But more important still, not for young people only, but for old as well, is to keep close to Christ that he may whisper to us the words we ought to speak, and that we may seek his counsel when in need of light and help along life's rugged pathway.

Statistics show that 400 human lives, \$75,000,000 and 200 ships have been lost in the fruitless efforts to find the North Pole. And yet there are people, says the New York Observer, who criticise the spending by the Christian churches of a few millions in missionary exploration or world wide evangelization. There are always those who are prone to raise the cry, Why this waste? But not all such critics by any means have the discernment to see where the real waste in the world occurs, or to admit that very far from being wasted are any honest, earnest missionary efforts anywhere put forth. If it is worth the while to spend \$75,000,000 and 400 human lives in the search for the North Pole, which if it were found, would, so far as we are able to see, do no one any special good, is it not worth the while to spend ten times the amount to find the lost souls in the world and bring them to a knowledge of Christ?